		Application No.	Applicant(s)
Notice of Allowability		09/514,607	ELLIOT ET AL.
		Examiner	Art Unit
		Andrew L. Nalven	2134

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *submission on 5/6/2005*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *1-4,6,8-10,12-15,17,21,23-26,28-32,34-39 and 41-50*.

3. ☒ The drawings filed on *26 February 2000* are accepted by the Examiner.

4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some*   c) ☐ None of the:

        1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

        2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

        3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * Certified copies not received: _____ .

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

    (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

        1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

    (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of

        Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

    Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____ .

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

Claims 1-4, 6, 8-10, 12-15, 17, 29-21, 23-26, 28, 30-32, 34-39, and 41-50 are pending.

1.   An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with George Gates (Reg # 33500) on 6 June 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1. A method for checking a version of an abstract data type stored in a database, comprising:

(a) constructing an identifier for the abstract data type, wherein the identifier comprises a concatenation of information describing the abstract data type that is substantially unique to the abstract data type;

(b) hashing the constructed identifier to generate a signature hash value for the abstract data type;

(c) storing the signature hash value in the database and in a class definition for the abstract data type; and

(d) comparing the signature hash value from the database with the signature hash value from the class definition after the class is instantiated in order to verify that the class definition is not outdated.

Claim 12. An apparatus for checking a version of an abstract data type stored in a database, comprising:

(a) means for constructing an identifier for the abstract data type, wherein the identifier comprises a concatenation of information describing the abstract data type that is substantially unique to the abstract data type;

(b) means for hashing the constructed identifier to generate a signature hash value for the abstract data type;

(c) means for storing the signature hash value in the database and in a class definition for the abstract data type; and

(d) means for comparing the signature hash value from the database and the signature hash value from the class definition after the class definition is instantiated in order to verify that the class definition is not outdated.

Claim 23. An article of manufacture embodying logic for performing a method for checking a version of an abstract data type stored in a database, the method comprising:

(a) constructing an identifier for the abstract data type, wherein the identifier comprises a concatenation of information describing the abstract data type that is substantially unique to the abstract data type;

(b) hashing the constructed identifier to generate a signature hash value for the abstract data type;

(c) storing the signature hash value in the database and in a class definition for the abstract data type; and

(d) comparing the signature hash value from the database with the signature hash value from the class definition after the class is instantiated in order to verify that the class definition is not outdated.

Allowable Subject Matter

2.   Claims 1-4, 6, 8-10, 12-15, 17, 29-21, 23-26, 28, 30-32, 34-39, and 41-50 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The cited prior art, Hunt US Patent No. 6,154,747, Fischer US Patent No. 6,105,072, and Morel et al US Patent No. 5,712,919 fail to teach or suggest "storing the signature hash value in the database and in a class definition for the abstract data type" (see Applicant's arguments filed 4/8/2005 page 17). The cited prior art instead teaches a lineage identifier that identifies a new object as having been derived from a source object. As a result, the cited prior art fails to anticipated or render obvious the above-cited claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrew L. Nalven whose telephone number is 571 272 3839. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 8-6, Alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gregory Morse can be reached on 571 272 3838. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.
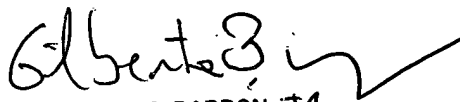
Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Andrew Nalven

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